

Protecting assets

Amwell Ridge Wealth Management helps individuals get their finances in order

David Johnston is not your typical financial planner. The founder and managing partner of Amwell Ridge Wealth Management in Flemington is not only an active member throughout the Hunterdon County community, but he also breaks complex financial jargon down to bite-size nuggets via unique weather analogies and investment philosophy metaphors about sailing and rowing. The latter comes most naturally to the Revolutionary War aficionado and re-enactor who will again don the uniform and serve as a member of the boat crew that rowed George Washington across the Delaware River on Christmas Day 1776.

Having just passed the milestone of 25 years in his field, Johnston got his start with Northwestern Mutual in 1996 following his graduation from The College of New Jersey. Following 11 years under the banner of a large institution, Johnston realized that he didn't want to just be "Dave from a large firm" and instead, like a true revolutionary, he "wanted more arrows in my quiver." Soon after, he launched Amwell Ridge Wealth Management.

According to Johnston, the firm "works best with people age 55 and older who are looking for the planning and guidance to ensure a smooth transition into — and through — their retirement." He added, "Candidly, it is easier to accumulate and save money than it is to protect it and generate income from it. After people have squirreled away money for decades, — and now they are faced with how to make it last for the next 25 or 30 years — and know they can't withstand a big market downturn — they seek us out. This is where we specialize. That's what sets us apart."

Amwell Ridge typically hosts nearly two dozen in-person educational seminars around Hunterdon County. Though the pandemic put a halt to those events for some time, Johnston and his team were back at it last month hosting two events at Stanton Ridge Country Club.

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David Johnston, CFP, managing partner

as the Director of Operations, his wife Jennifer, who came aboard three years ago as both Office Manager and Events Coordinator, Client Service Manager Karen Pollock and Finance Director Billy Millington.

A lifelong New Jersey resident, Johnston goes above and beyond his professional duties to serve the community he holds so dear. He serves on two local boards, including vice president of Prevention Resources (www.njprevent.com), which aims to cultivate drug-free communities through education and counseling, and also holds the treasurer position at the Flemington Community Partnership (www.loveflemington.com), whose objective is to increase economic development in Flemington Borough.

So this Christmas Day, while Johnston is not only serving the county that he loves in myriad ways — professionally, personally, athletically (he captain's his men's soccer team), and volunteering — his brother will be joining him to once again safely transport George Washington and his troops across the Delaware River. If he can be entrusted year after year with shepherding our nation's very first president across the mighty Delaware, he can certainly be tasked with guiding your retirement income plan.

For more information, visit www.amwellridge.com or call 908-751-5387.

— Vanessa Rothschild



Photo courtesy of Dave Norton
David Johnston launched Amwell Ridge Wealth Management after a successful career working at a large firm.



A Revolutionary War aficionado, David Johnston helps re-enact Gen. George Washington's famous trip across the Delaware every year.



**FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR AFFLUENT FAMILIES
THROUGHOUT HUNTERDON COUNTY**



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